GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5457
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2005
MPORT OF MEDICINES
Hasan Chaudhary Munawwar

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the medicines imported during the last three years and the foreign exchange spent thereon;

(b) whether the import of medicines has decreased during 2004-2005;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS & MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d): As per the information available from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics,import of medicinal and pharmaceutical products for the last three years have been as under:

Year	Import of medicinal and pharmaceutical products (Rs.in Crorest
2002-03	2865.20
2003-04	2955.63 (Prov.)
2004-05	This information has not been published yet.

As the import figures for 2004-05 have not been published yet, it is not possible to ascertain that whether Imports have been decreased during 2004-05 or not. The country is self-sufficient in production in most of the drugs. The imports may not be related to the lack of production in the country, as imports made by manufacturers are for different reasons including availability of cheaper drugs in international market, imports linked to procurement from Principals abroad etc.